

Appendix G

Travel Management Network Methodology

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Transportation Planning Process

1. Classify roads, including:

(NOTE: For the purpose of this DRMP/DEIS, a “road” is defined as a route for designated travel, regardless of the type of travel; and “off-road” is defined as cross-country travel between designated roads. All off-road travel by motorized and/or mechanized vehicles is prohibited on the Monument.)

- designated roads;
- roads with public destinations (e.g., viewpoints, ruins, towns, trailheads);
- unplanned roads (e.g., user-created roads);
- reasonable access roads to valid and existing rights;
- roads needed for “emergency or authorized administrative purposes”
- road conditions (e.g., needs reconstruction, needs maintenance, needs frequent maintenance, high clearance/4WD); and
- road type (e.g., reclaiming, single track, primary road unpaved, secondary road unpaved, tertiary road unpaved).

2. Assemble resource data, including:

- biological data:
 - Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) special element data;
 - CNHP potential conservation areas;
 - Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) game coverages;
 - McElmo Research Natural Area (RNA);
 - unique habitats (e.g., riparian or wetland areas, and/or areas with unique geology, such as hanging gardens);
 - occurrences/habitats of biologic objects identified in the Monument Proclamation;
 - other relevant data sets (e.g., endangered or threatened species, special status species); and
 - expert opinion on likely occurrences/habitat for important biological resources that do not have existing data coverages.
- cultural data:
 - cultural site locations;
 - historic/prehistoric cultural landscapes; and
 - historic trails.
- physical data:
 - soil types;
 - watersheds, stream segments, and/or sites with perennial water; and
 - unique geologic occurrences and/or structures, including:

- + paleontological site locations and/or likely paleo-rich formations; and
 - + springs and/or seeps.
 - roadless areas (e.g., WSAs, CWPAs); and
 - landscape health, including:
 - BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado; and
 - proper functioning condition (PFC) assessments for streams and springs.
3. Identify geographic sub-units that constitute logical distinct recreation planning areas and define existing conditions, including:
 - summarizing the existing character of each sub-unit, in terms of:
 - current transportation and recreation opportunities/facilities; and
 - the type and character of the experience that the sub-unit offers.
 4. Develop a visitor access vision for each sub-unit, derived from the overall recreation and transportation goals, considering the sub-units' existing character, the mandate to protect Monument objects, predicted management capacity, and public desires.
 5. Develop a desired future condition for each sub-unit, including:
 - defining experiential conditions;
 - defining resource conditions;
 - identifying transportation facilities that will exist; and
 - identifying transportation facilities that will be removed.
 6. Develop transportation/recreation goals and objectives, derived from the desired future condition.
 7. Ask the following questions, in order to help to determine whether to add or remove additional roads from the transportation management network in the future. If all answers are "no," the road would be closed. If any answer is "yes," consideration for keeping the road open should be made by the Monument Manager (with mitigation).
 - Is the road officially recognized as a County road by both the BLM and the by County it is located within?
 - Does the road lead to developments that have an administrative purpose, where the BLM or some permitted user (not including private land access) must have access for regular maintenance and/or operation?
 - Is the road a primary or secondary unpaved road?
 - If so, does the road have a destination?
 - If so, does it contribute to the management objectives, and framework, and setting prescriptions of the Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) in which it is located?
 - If so, does the road avoid impacts to Monument objects and/or other resources?
 8. Assess supplemental roads for roads classified as providing "reasonable access to valid and existing rights" or as roads necessary for "emergency or authorized administrative purposes":

- Is the road the **only** reasonable access to valid and existing rights, or is it critical for “emergency or authorized administrative purposes?”
 - If not, and if the road would be closed or subject to limitations under 3-C, then close the road. If yes, were any of the answers in No. 4 (above) “no”?
 - If not, keep the road open. If yes, then limit access to administrative or authorized purposes only, and consider seasonal closure or rerouting to protect Monument objects and/or resources.
9. Landscape level review. Review the final road assessment in order to:
- ensure that recreation and transportation goals and objectives are being met;
 - ensure that BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado are not being exceeded;
 - ensure that the transportation and recreation system can be reasonably managed, based on current and predicted law enforcement and monitoring efforts; and
 - ensure that Monument objects and resources are adequately protected.